Anexo I. Registro del Título del Trabajo Fin de Grado (TFG)

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Título provisional del TFG:

TACKLING THE ILLICIT USE OF CRYPTOCURRENCIES: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE, THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK, AND THE BANK OF ENGLAND

ADJUNTAR PROPUESTA (máximo 4 páginas: Índice provisional, objetivos, metodología y bibliografía)

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Fecha: 23/10/2025

Propuesta TFG

Student: Cathal Guckian – 202417296

TITLE: TACKLING THE ILLICIT USE OF CRYPTOCURRENCIES: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE, THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK, AND THE BANK OF ENGLAND

JUSTIFICATION

I have chosen this title and topic to complete my TFG on because it involves the core principles of International Political Economy, as it links governance, power, and money. Each of these dimensions is being reshaped by the growing presence of cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology. This topic is extremely relevant in a global context, as crypto-related crime, money laundering and sanction evasion are all on the rise and have become a reason for concern for regulatory institutions. Analysing the issue through the perspectives of three of the world's most powerful and influential central banks – the Federal Reserve, the ECB and the Bank of England – will provide valuable insights into how these monetary authorities respond to, and try to mitigate, the illicit activity surrounding digital assets.

OBJECTIVES

This comparative study is guided by the following objectives:

- To identify and outline the current regulatory frameworks and policy approaches of the Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank, and the Bank of England, regarding digital assets.
- To analyse each central bank's specific measures for addressing the unlawful use of stablecoins, including anti-money laundering and compliance mechanisms.
- To compare the similarities and differences among the three institutions' strategies for tackling crypto-related criminality and financial risk.
- To evaluate and justify the overall importance of these regulatory approaches and assess whether there is a need for stricter or more coordinated global protocols.

METHODOLOGY

To comply with the objectives of this work, desk-based research will be conducted on the aforementioned topics surrounding cryptocurrencies, digital assets, the criminal use of crypto, and the regulatory responses of three major central banks. From there, a comparative qualitative analysis will be carried out, aiming to offer a deep understanding of the approaches of the Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank, and the Bank of England's to reduce crypto related criminality. This comparative approach will enable the identification of both similarities and differences regarding institutional regulatory strategies performed by these central banks as they try to crack down on crypto-related financial crime. This analysis will draw on research like policy reports, regulatory frameworks, public statements, academic literature, journal articles, news articles, and official publications from each central bank. This will allow for an in-depth understanding of each of the three central bank's current positions on cryptocurrency regulations, along with a wider evaluation of its global governance and possible future trends.

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